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ROSES AND LEMONS AWARDS BREAKFAST 1996

THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH
THE BILTMORE HOTEL
LOS ANGELES

The Downtown Breakfast Club is an organization of professionals whose main purpose is to recognize, foster and encourage the orderly and planned growth of Downtown Los Angeles. The group consists of individual representatives of all the major fields of development: real estate, banking, international investment groups, architects and engineers, urban planners, investment brokers, insurance development organizations and governmental agencies. Meeting on a bi-monthly basis, the group maintains a profile of current business activity through featured guest speakers as recruited by its members. This type of professional interface encourages and supports sound principles of developing a better quality of life for Downtown Los Angeles.

WELCOME

Fritz Kastner

PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

Michelle Isenberg Lauren Meléndrez

SPECIAL AWARD - STEVE GAVIN

Liz Harrison

PRESENTATION OF ROSE AWARDS

Bob Stewart
Nick Blackburn
Bill Fain
John Whitaker
Sue Laris-Eastin
Michelle Isenberg
Lauren Meléndrez

I. STRUCTURES

V. EVENTS

Gateway Transit Center

I. RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS

Grand Central Apartments Norbo Hotel Produce Hotel Villa de Pueblo

III. RENOVATIONS

Angels Flight

IV. CIVIC/PRIVATE COMMITMENT

Broadway Theaters District Study Downtown Cultural Trust Fund South Park Development Strategies and Design Guidelines 444 Volleyball Tournament – "Beach Week" Oktoberfest Cal Plaza Event Series – 10th Anniversary

VI. PUBLIC ART

"Angels" by Jill D'Agnenica
MOCA at the Temporary Contemporary ReOpening: Streb/Ringside's "ACTION
OCCUPATION Performances" and "1965-1975
Reconsidering the Object of Art"
Union Station Gateway Inermodal Transit
Center and MTA Headquarters

VII. GOOD IDEAS, WE'D LIKE TO SEE MORE

Angels Walk Arroyo Seco Bicycle Freeway Fashion District Business Improvement District

PRESENTATION OF LEMON AWARD

Howard Reback

ADJOURNMENT

The Downtown Breakfast Club has its own web site: http://quin.com/roselemon.html



Scott Thompson



Melendrez, Lauren 453 Lewis Street Los Angeles CA

Breakfast With Angels

Angelic Projects Receive Roses; MTA Sinkholes Stuck With Lemon at Development Awards

Dome Alone: The Gateway Transit Center, including the East Portal, won an award for Best New Structure.

by Jack Skelley

ngels were metaphorically flying at the Downtown Breakfast Club Roses and Lemon awards last Thursday at the Biltmore Hotel. The annual event, which honors the best-and chides the worst-of Downtown developments, saw "Rose" awards going to three angel-themed projects: Angels Flight funicular, Angels Walk pedestrian plan and City of Angels art installation.

The Breakfast Club bestowed a chastising "Lemon" to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) for its "shoddy contract administration performance" in relation

to Red Line subway construction.

That criticism of the MTA was perhaps counterbalanced by the club's top design award—"Best New Structure"—going to the public agency's new, \$300 million headquarters and Gateway Transit Center, developed jointly with Catellus Development Corp. The Center, whose ambitious

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Angeles—and a hopeful symbol of the renewal of Downtown."

Accepting the award, CRA Board Chair Christine Essel, who is also a film industry executive, paraphrased Sally Field's famous Academy Awards speech, saying, "It's great to know that you really really like us."

As for the "Lemon" award chiding the MTA's construction scandals, presenter Howard Reback offered tart rejoinders to the public agency, noting how subway construction has

so far had the opposite effect of revitalizing the city, mostly due to contractual excesses such as cost overruns or inadequate oversight. He offered a litany of abuses includ-

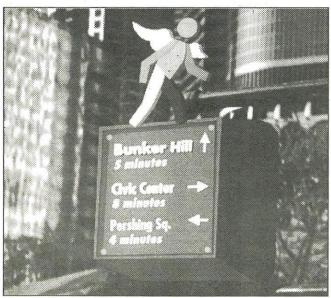
Club Web

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ing sinking sidewalks, tunnel thickness problems, federal withholding of funds and, of course, the infamous sinkhole in Hollywood, a result of "substandard mate-

rials." As Reback put it, "The MTA contract administration group has taken us for the ride of the century."

Other awards-all complimentary-went to the low-income family housing Villa del Pueblo ("Best Low-Income Residential Project"); the neighborhood planning study known as South Park Development Strategies and Design Guidelines ("Best Civic/Private Commitment"); and the popular California Plaza Event Series which draws up to 5,000 for a single concert ("Best Event").



Pathfinder: Angels Walk pedestrian plan received the commendation: "Good Ideas, We'd Like to See More."

Roses & Lemon

Continued from page one

art program was also nominated for "Best Public Art" project, drew praise from Fritz Kastner, club chairman, who said, "As Los Angeles becomes increasingly the focus of international business and tourism, Gateway Center is going to emerge as a major landmark of the city."



Viva la Villa: The Residential award went to the low-income family housing project, Villa del Pueblo.

The Gateway Center award was one of two paying tribute to the efforts of MTA Alternate Board Member Nick Patsaouras, whose Angels Walk plan received the commendation of "Good Ideas, We'd Like to See More." In accepting that award for the pro-



photo by Gary Leonard

Downtown Breakfast Club member Elizabeth Harrison displays the one award that no one ever accepts—the Lemon—which this year went to the MTA's contract scandals.

ject, which is funded by the MTA and seeks to unify the diverse neighborhoods of Downtown through pedestrian linkages, Patsaouras said, "Angels Walk has been accepted as part of the vision of Downtown."

The other two angel-themed awardees were artist Jill D'Agnenica's City of Angels installation ("Best Public Art"), in which D'Agnenica placed 4,687 magenta plaster angels throughout the city, and Angels Flight ("Best Renovation"), in which the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) took the lead in reviving the elegant tourist attraction, the "world's shortest railway" connecting Bunker Hill with the Historic

Angels Flight, said Kastner, "is a reminder of a more gracious era in Los